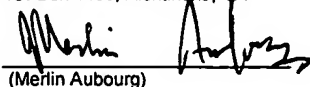


fw

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: August 17, 2006

Signature:


(Merlin Aubourg)

Docket No.: VRO-02001
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Stanley W. Stone

Application No.: 10/687023

Confirmation No.: 9153

Filed: October 16, 2003

Art Unit: 3652

For: WAFER HANDLER METHOD AND SYSTEM

Examiner: C. A. Fox

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 19, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows. Changes to the claims are shown by strike through (for deleted matter) and underlining (for added matter). **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper. Remarks are provided beginning on page 11 of this paper.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper; however, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any deficiencies to Deposit Account Number **06-1448, Reference VRO-020.01.**